ROBERTA COLDREN DYER
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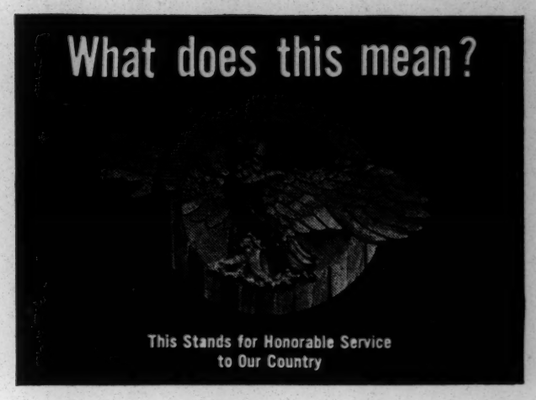
SPIRITUALISM'S PICTORIAL JOURNAL

The PSYCHIC OBSERVER

TRUTH



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APPORT PHENOMENA

How ? When ? Where ? Why ?

Since 1839, when, according to the records, apports were first reported to have been received, there has been an unusual amount of interest shown in this rare phase of mediumship.

In this article, Grace Schafer, outlines her personal experiences with apports and cites much present-day evidence as well as numerous case histories.

What We Know and Don't Know About APPORTS.

By
GRACE P. SCHAFER
"Trail's End"
Arden, Delaware

A number of unusual objects are on and over my desk. *What a strange assortment they are!* Not particularly decorative, nevertheless they have a magnetic fascination for me. To anyone else they are just: *Indian arrow-heads*, an *ancient coin*, a small *conch shell*, a *white eagle feather*, a *red* and a *gray feather*, a pressed *orchid*, and a small but heavy, *lava-rock bowl*. *How* the collective articles came into my possession seems to be a great insolvable mystery.

Of all phases of psychic phenomena, not including materializations, apport manifestations excite the greatest wonderment and controversies. In materializations, the spirit forms appear and disappear, but in apport phenomena, materialized objects remain to testify that their being is an actuality. The objects before me are constant reminders of God's illimitable power; His "*many mansions*"; and that all things are possible through His grace and at "*His pleasure.*"

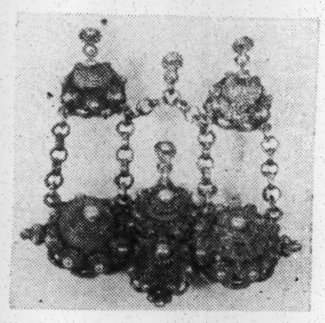
Some Appreciate

Often I sit and meditate on the significance and spiritual value of the *apports*, and the possible causes of their being in my possession. As I review incidents relative to these unusual gifts, they may contain messages apropos to *Psychic Observer* readers who are not personally acquainted with *apport* phenomena.

Frequently (in the past) my stories of mediums and their work appeared in this paper. Sometimes, unexpectedly, I received responses of appreciation from mediums, but in most cases I did not receive an expression of any kind; however, the mediums' spirit "*guides*" have never missed an opportunity to enter seances and thank me, personally . . . offering their assistance to me, whenever I am in need.

Selected Individuals

The *apports* before me are mostly, tokens of appreciation from the "*spirit controls*" of different mediums; given to me as meritorious recognition for work *they* had deemed worthy. An outstanding virtue of spirits who help mankind is: *appreciation*. Sometimes they speak regretfully of their mediums who totally disregard what *they* consider to be of vital importance. Their missions are impersonal; and are directed in convincing the world of immortality; they work through certain selected individuals whose bodies are highly sensitized for their work.



Psychic Observer

The above apport, an antique triple pendent, was received several years ago by Juliette Ewing Pressing during a seance. The medium was Minnie Cooke O'Hara, 225 East Main St., Fredonia.

Flowers Apported

The *apports* which I have received are not a circumstance to what has been given, via spirit agency, to Mr. and Mrs. Pressing (editors of this paper), by grateful spirits for their unselfish work in the behalf of Spiritualism. They have an interesting collection of *apport* gifts at their home in Lily Dale, N. Y. I have been present in seances when some of them were received.

Mrs. Pressing and I were each, recipients of very ancient coins, at one of Frank Decker's seances in New York, "*Patsy*" (Mr. Decker's well-known spirit helper) opened our purses and dropped them in.

At a private materialization given by *Edward Lester Thorne*, for his class, in New York, I received a beautiful fresh orchid from little "*Sunbeam.*" Another spirit-helper appeared; she called herself "*The White Sister*" and was dressed in a white nun's uniform. Her arms were laden with flowers (in January); some of the pansies were the largest I have ever seen. There were also, lovely snapdragons, gladiolus and many other varieties distributed to the class members.

An Indian Paint-bowl

At different times, through the mediumship of *Leonard Stott*, in Philadelphia, I received *feathers* from grateful spirits. One entity belonged to the spirit-group of another medium and he grasped the opportunity to thank me for helping his medium.

I received the primitive lava-rock bowl from an Indian who said he is interested in helping me (*at a later time, through Mr. Stott also*). The bowl was covered with hard dry earth and, although the Indian said it was his personal, *paint bowl*, I had to use a chisel to remove the dirt before I could see *what* it was. He told me that I might find "*flecks of paint*" on the bowl after it was cleaned. I did find spots of white and red paint on its porous surface.

To illustrate how the law of attraction operates: Several years ago Mr. Pressing and I were present at Leonard Stott's direct-voice seance. After the seance Mr. Pressing presented Mr. Stott with a book: "*The Mediumship of Jack Webber*," (*) by Harry Edwards. Mr. Webber had passed into the spirit world a few months previ-

(*) Dale News, Inc.—$2.50.

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

Hamlin Garland and His Favorite Medium Search for the Buried Crosses

Psychic Observer

The picture above shows Hamlin Garland, noted psychic researcher and author of the book "The Mystery of The Buried Crosses" (now out-of-print) and the Chicago medium, Sophia Williams, digging for the buried crosses. Amazing accounts of exact locations specified by the medium are found in Garland's book. For additional evidence of Mrs. Williams' mediumship, read the article beginning below, this page, written by Maurice Zolotow, writer of national fame.

I Heard A Spirit Voice!

Saturday Evening Post Writer Entertains Noted Medium In His New York Apartment.

I Witness Phenomena In Bright Light.

By
MAURICE ZOLOTOW
15 Washington Place
New York City

One of the strangest experiences in my life commenced rather prosaically last autumn when *Halsey Raines*, a publicity man for M-G-M in New York, telephoned and asked me if I knew of *Mrs. Sophia Williams*. She said she was the Chicago medium who, some years ago, engaged in a remarkable series of experiments with *Hamlin Garland*, during which various voices identified themselves as the spirits of ancient Spanish missionaries in California and related where and how forgotten mission crosses and old Christian relics could be found. *Garland*, on her instruction, had dug and found several hundred crosses. The incidents are related in full in Garlands "*Mystery of the Buried Crosses*".

Since Mrs. Williams was to be in Manhattan for only one day, I told Raines that I would like to meet her socially and, she being agreeable, both of them came to my home that evening.

Houdini and D. D. Home

No seances or experiments were planned or intended. To meet Mrs. Williams, I invited two friends also interested in psychic research: *Stewart Robb*, the author of a book on Nostradamus, and Walter B. Gibson, a magician.

Mrs. Williams did not know or suspect that either Robb or Gibson were to be present at my house. She had never met either gentleman, nor had she ever met myself, or my wife.

Mrs. Williams turned out to be a worldly and utterly charming lady. She is not classed as a professional medium and rarely accepts fees for her psychic work, as she is said to have an independent income.

We spoke of mediumship, of vaudeville—in her youth she had been a stage dancer, of Houdini and of *Daniel Dunglas Home*.

Gibson and she reminisced about vaudeville artists they had both known.

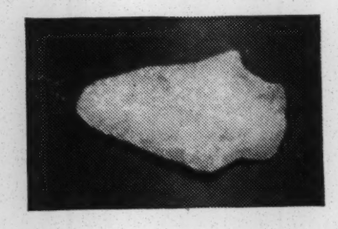
Stewart Robb Inquires

Mrs. Williams said all her phenomena had occurred in full light. We were then sitting in the living-room of my apartment, which was brilliantly illuminated by an indirect-lighting lamp and a bridge lamp.

As we sat and chatted desultorily, *Robb*, rather restless and determined not to miss an opportunity to witness some psychic demonstration, said he had

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 3)

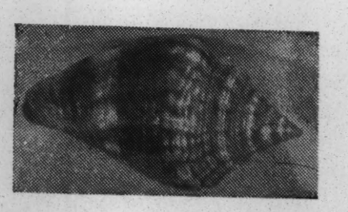
What Apports Are



"Psychic Observer"

The apport above, an arrow-head, was received during a "home circle" at Arden, Delaware. Grace Schafer and her husband, George, were the only persons present. They had been sitting regularly for several years. This was their first and only apport.

The apport below, a shell, was received by Grace Schafer during a seance at Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp, Chesterfield, Indiana. The medium was John Bunker, Eaton Rapids, Michigan.



Psychic Observer

Not all students of Spiritual phenomena have access to the "Encyclopedia of Psychic Science," written by NANDOR FODOR, LL. D. In this volume, the author devotes over 7000 words to the subject of APPORTS—saying in part: "When certain physical mediums are present, various objects arrive through apparent penetration of matter. This is one of the most baffling phenomena of Spiritualism. The objects differ in size, may be both inanimate and living and appear none the worse for their journey. The phenomena was first observed in 1839 by DR. G. P. BILLET, Paris, France when, through the mediumship of Madame "J," a dove was heard flying around the seance room. This dove was described by the control as being 'white as snow.'

"There are two theories on which the phenomena of apport may be brought within understanding. One is the fourth dimension and the other now generally favored by spiritualists, the disintegration and reintegration of the apported objects. The former was first advocated by PROFESSOR JOHANN ZOLLNER to explain the phenomenon of interpenetration of matter which he observed with HENRY SLADE. It was approved by PROFESSOR CEASAR LOMBROSO and PROFESSOR CAMILLE FLAMMARION. It means that there is a higher form of space of which we are not cognizant. The objects to be apported are lifted into this dimension, brought to the desired spot and

(Continued on Page 4, lower left)

"Psychic Observer"

The apport above, an arrow-head, received by Grace Schafer during a seance at Philadelphia, Pa. The medium was Leonard Stott.

The apport below, a primitive lava-rock bowl, was received through Stott's mediumship. The spirit Indian, who gave the bowl to Mrs. Schafer, at the seance said that it was his personal "paint-bowl." When received it was covered with hard flecks of paint.

Psychic Observer

An Indian Legend

As told by "Rain-in-the-Face" to his little friend ANNETTE THOMPSON. Taken down and submitted by BLANCHE FLETCHER, Mattoon, Ill. Heard in a seance at Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp, Chesterfield, Indiana. JOHN BUNKER was the medium.

A young *Indian Brave* fell in love with a beautiful dark-eyed *Princess*. Each day he watched her as she sat in the shade of her wigwam, weaving pine tree designs out of bright strands, or stitching beads on leather. When the evening breeze stirred the water, he pictured her with him in his birch bark canoe — sailing across the Lake into the sunset glow. *Silently he waited.*

JOHN BUNKER

One day his *Princess* did not come to weave. She did not sit in the twilight watching the stars come out. Then he learned she had fallen ill. Her sickness grew. One day she passed away.

Weeks passed, but the young *Brave* could not still the hurt in his heart. He too wanted to die. No more did he care to chase the red-deer. No more could he dance and beat the tomtoms. When the winds sank to a quiet lull he got into his canoe, and dipping his oars into the glassy waters—sailed down the river to his friend the *Medicine Man* (the Red-Man's Medium).

He invited the young *Brave* into his wigwam, and lying on his cot, fell into a deep sleep—that the beautiful *Princess* might once again speak to her lover. *She came.* Once more his heart beat with joy. Never had he known such happiness, such ecstasy, such contentment. He wanted to go with her and never return to earth again.

But his beautiful Princess told him he must stay . . . for his work on earth was only started. There he must learn his first lessons—there learn *spiritual unfoldment, sacrifice* and *service.* There he must become a Leader. But she would be with him and watch over him. With his good thoughts and brave deeds she would build him a teepee Eternal. She told him the only ugliness she *could* build into it would be what ugliness he saw in Life.

Then the young *Brave* understood.. He bid her good-by. With a stout heart and deep determination he continued earth life so that one day, with all battles won, he might take her waiting hand, and with her, walk upward into the heavenly Light . . . *for now he knew the real purpose of life.*

INSPIRATION

...Is Usually Preceded by Desire, Practice, Perseverance and Perspiration.

By DORTCH CAMPBELL
Clarksdale, Mississippi

Inspiration is that answer which comes down to us from *The Unseen* when a question wells up in the heart. Even in a work-a-day world we continually ask questions of the Soul and if we listen unhurriedly we are told what to do to solve our problems. Poets, playwrights, musicians, artists, and every department of life—are continually asking questions in the heart and those questions are, *"How shall I make this masterpiece?"* and the answers are what the world calls inspiration.

"I See Myself"

"Inspiration," a lead pencil drawing of a beautiful being which *Pfc. Martin Breithaupt* created and sent to *The Psychic Observer* from far-off The *Netherlands East Indies*, is undoubtedly the answer to questions in the heart of a lonely lad. The drawing (*) was inspired. It is an esoteric symbol of a post-war plan for a better world, he wrote *Juliette Ewing Pressing*, the editor. The drawing is a young warrior's dream of what the world should be — an artist's symbolic ideal of a better world.

'The drawing," he wrote, *"came to me step by step in hours of slumber and quiet meditation. Nearly all of my work comes to my attention combined with a definite story. At intervals I get clearer visions of the design and the colors to be used. Sometimes I feel the inward personality impressing me to use a particular color. This is usually presented to me in a mental concept such as is the case when one visualizes a house, or flowers, only the impression was more definite."*

Private First Class *Breithaupt* asserts that in conceiving his masterpieces he steps out of the physical habitation into a distinctly different realm.

"I can plainly see myself drawing a certain kind of design beginning with one or two colors," he writes . . . *"As the picture progresses I see where I should begin creating it in material reality. So I begin with the simplest lines and concentrate on that part of the picture. All that time I see myself creating advanced portions of the drawing."*

Cannot Be Denied

Breithaupt works under a very strong and impulsive thought until the picture is well under way. *"I am sure,"* he adds, *"that I have recognized the details before they are set down—"* has painted them in deed and in truth in the spiritual realm before they are put to canvas.

'The characters always seem to come to life," he adds. That is true art of course, of fiction writer as well as painter or sculptor—to make character come to life.

Instances of psychical assistance for those of artistic bent of mind are too frequent to be lightly denied; for those who ask, those who desire to create the beauties of *The Unseen*, receive their answers in the mundane things of life. Instances of psychical aid were oft told by *Evelyn De Morgan*, who became a skilful executor of paintings in the pre-Raphaelite style.

Sense Unseen Influence

Evelyn's mother decided to give her brother, *Sir Walter Spencer-Stanhope*, a present and commissioned her daughter to paint a picture for him. Sir Walter, his wishes questioned, said he could not decide on a suitable subject.

Evelyn, drawing in her studio one evening, felt an urge to paint a picture from the text, *"Mercy and Truth have met together; Righteousness and Peace have kissed each other."* Afterward she related in London that the theme came in a flash and at the same time she completely visualized the design.

A letter was received the following morning from her Yorkshire uncle asking her to paint a picture from the text she had decided the evening before to put on canvas!

Inspirational Drawing

Inspiration came to Evelyn from *The Unseen.* That which she painted was perhaps etched there before she received it—a design upon the canvas of the higher consciousness. As I write this I pause, not knowing what to say, I get upon my feet, I go to the door, I look out upon the far-flung, wide-flung Delta, and, as I gaze, my mind works unconsciously upon this theme.

I had come to a stalemate as to what I should put upon the page and my conscious mind reaches for guidance. I am not aware of all these process until I return to my chair and begin to write again, but then I perceive that the things I should say are already written in *The Unseen!* That thought so needed to prepare in some degree a finished product at this point is given me and I shall write as I am guided, knowing there is no faltering in the Etheric World around me.

Not A Dabbler

Captain Alfred Pearse, artist, author and inventor and designer for England's king and queen, relates an odd incident that is warp and woof of conditions and circumstances that are fashioned by psychical influences.

"After I came back from France," he observes, *"a doctor, who was attending my wounded foot in London, began talking about what was called 'the Belgian murder' which had recently occurred, explaining that a woman had been killed and her body thrown over the railing in Russell Square in a sack. I felt an unseen influence; I picked up a newspaper giving an account of her murder and in which her picture was presented. I kept looking at the picture,but I did not look at her likeness, but saw nothing but a man's face. Nobody then knew the identity of the murderer. I drew the face of the man I had seen in the woman's picture and handed it to the physician. He said: 'This is Spiritualism. You must not dabble in that. A friend of mine has just died through dabbling in Spiritualism'."*

The spirit of a woman of oval face and fair hair appeared to the artist the next morning. The apparition said: *"I want you to understand I did not die through dabbling in Spiritualism."*

Thousands of Cases

The entity from the unseen world then explained that she had been murdered. The man who took her life was not discovered for some time after that incident. But when his identity was established the amazing thing was revealed—the drawing produced by the artist was an accurate picture of the murderer. This was admitted not only by the physician but by others.

"Sometimes," observes Breithaupt, *"I lose trace of myself enough to realize that I have an inner personality of a higher authority which seems to come forth most in the mind and govern my actions, or I just feel as though I am that particular personality, and while I am working on a drawing I go through all the experiences that one would expect if that personality."*

This is not an uncommon experience, but, as a matter of fact, there are thousands of well-authenticated cases of this kind. We seem to be guided in all the mundane affairs of life if we will but listen and obey. There are tides in the affairs of life which taken at their flood lead on to fortune—and they are spiritual tides. Man is inspired, rough-hew life as he will. *Victorien Sardou*, famous French dramatist, wrote under spirit or divine guidance. He produced an engraving of Moliere's house on copper under psychical influence.

Alfred Tennyson

He explains his genius under mystic spell.

"I was seated at my table," he explains, *"when I fell into a reverie and unconsciously took up the graver and impelled by secret influence let my hand follow its own direction over that plate. The engraving of Moliere's house was the result of several hours of purely mechanical toil. I could not of my own will make such a picture to save my life."*

Alfred Tennyson, the poet, occasionally drifted into the ecstatic state in which inspiration came. His individuality seemed to dissolve, leaving only the poet, a boundless being, unhampered by matter.

"This is not a composed state," the poet wrote, *"but the clearest of the clearest, the surest of the surest, utterly beyond words, where death was almost a laughable impossibility, the loss of personality seeming no extinction, but the only true life."*

Not A Dream State

The lad of *The Netherlands East Indies* may at times be under that mystic spell so oft related by artists, poets, musicians and even material scientists. This is no dream state; it is a form of reverie, at least bordering on ecstasy, a rapture. It is an overwhelming state of feeling, a sensing, mystical, prophetic. It is that state of being beside oneself in which questions the heart asks are answered. I do not advise that anyone derange oneself in seeking for it. Rather, it is advisable to simply ask, to knock at the door of thought, and listen for the answers. Anything one wishes to do or know is already done or known in *The Unseen.*

"Any person who wishes to experiment along this line will get results," the East Indies young man observes. *"Put a drawing on a wall,"* he continues, *"and sit across the room and just relax and gaze at it at short intervals."*

But he also gives a very practical formula that should not be overlooked in a very material and practical world. He concludes: *"I learned to draw through desire, practice, perseverance, perspiration—and INSPIRATION!"*

(*) Reproduction of this drawing appeared on the front page of Psychic Observer, July 25, 1945 issue.

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WONEWOC SPIRITUALIST CAMP IN SESSION—CLOSES AUG. 26

Psychic Observer

ROSE DE WARZEGER

She is a lecturer, teacher and mental medium; Pastor of The First Spiritualist Church, Cherry and Madison St., Green Bay, Wisconsin.

She is treasurer of The Western Wisconsin Camp Association, Wonewoc, Wisconsin and is scheduled for public lectures and demonstrations of clairvoyance during the current 1945 season.

Whitewell Featured

The forty-fourth annual camp-meeting of The *Western Wisconsin Camp Association, Inc.*, opened at *Wonewoc*, Wisconsin July 1st and will close August 26th, according to *Rose DeWarzeger*, Treasurer.

Listed on the official program in order of their appearance during the 1945 season: Frank G. *Hostak*, Melvina *Hostak*, Rose *DeWarzeger*, Max *Hoffman*, Clarence *Britton*, Helen *Marth*, Julius *Steineman*, Lucille *Millar*, Minnie *Lambert*, William *Fuller*, Esther *Drake*, Frank L. *Lamping*, Elizabeth *Grokowsky*, Frank *Joseph*, Mae *Mass*, Joseph P. *Whitwell*, Lester *Miller*, Martha *Schmaelzle*, Mrs. *Brey*, Clara *Lemberger*, Daisy *Pease*, Ralph *Albrecht*, Margaret *Hammersberg*, Wilbur *Hull*.

Others on the program: R. Lee *Green* is listed as a physical medium and Charles *Williams* and Mrs. C. F. *Denman* as healers.

The Board of Directors: President, F. G. *Hostak;* First Vice President, Alois J. *Hettwar;* Second Vice President, Wilbur *Hull;* Financial Secretary Martha *Wooley;* Corresponding Secretary, Cora *Barge;* Treasurer, Rose *DeWarzeger;* Trustees, Henrietta *Williams*, Cecelia *Ray*, Ralph *Albrecht*, Lester *Miller* and Elizabeth *Grokowsky*.

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Knowledge of Survival Stimulates Our Lives

"My Husband Entirely a Different Person"
Says Ada Rodgers, Author of This Article

o o

Skeptic receives startling proof of survival.

By ADA RODGERS
608 Harrison Ave.,
Panama City, Florida

It all started four years ago when a dear old lady, *Mrs. Robert Brownfield* of Lynn Haven, Florida sat talking to me. Suddenly she said she sensed that some of my loved ones may soon pass on to spirit. Within two weeks, a nephew, *J. B. Atkinson, Jr.* was in a car wreck and only lived about thirty six hours.

After the funeral, I called on Mrs. Brownfield to ask her how she was able to tell me these things.

She explained clairvoyance as best she could. She gave me several psychic magazines and I read everything in them.

I found names of many prominent mediums within their pages and wrote to many of them. I was surprised to receive letters of explanation and encouragement from many . . . some even submitted detailed explanations and answered many questions that used to baffle me. I finally subscribed to Psychic Observer and it was then that I began my search for truth in dead earnest.

Orthodox Parentage

I was born and reared the daughter of a strict Orthodox Methodist Minister but I never seemed quite satisfied with the teachings because somehow there was that certain something missing. Needless to say, I was severely criticized for wandering away from the well beaten trail.

I read articles and studied pictures of the mediums publicized in Psychic Observer. I even wrote *Juliette Ewing Pressing* for advice on books to read, and thanks to her, I have much literature on subjects that enlightened me.

In 1943, I attended *Camp Chesterfield* in Indiana. Only those who have had this experience can understand the supreme joy and soul satisfaction there is in hearing messages of love from those whose voices you thought had been stilled forever. The first direct-voice seance I ever attended was amazing. Voices came through from my beloved parents, *Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Atkinson, Sr.*

I attended seances with Clifford *Bias*, Mable *Riffle*, James *Laughton*, Loretta *Schmitt*, Maud *Fox* and Franchion *Harwood* with wonderful results.

She Knew Her!

To talk and visit with all the mediums at Chesterfield whose articles I had read and whose pictures I had seen in Psychic Observer, was like the characters in a child's story book coming to life.

Again in 1944, I attended Chesterfield with the same astonishing results. On this trip I met Mrs. Pressing and on hearing my name she said, *"Oh you are the girl who loves books!"* She had shipped so many to me, she identified me thus. She also helped me select more books from the Chesterfield *Book Shoppe*, located in the Bazaar Building.

By this time, I was told that I had progressed wonderfully. My reading and study had helped and I was beginning to have assembled about me a wonderful band of teachers.

I remained alone in my knowledge of survival for none of my family were able to accept Spiritualism, except my son, *William*.

However, on May 9, 1945, Emil Schmidt, 114 N. New Haven Avenue, Ventor, New Jersey, came to my home at Panama City, Florida, for a two weeks visit. Mr. Schmidt is a trance, direct-voice, and clairvoyance medium. We held a seance in my study May 16.

Table Phenomena

Those attending were Marian *McGinnis* and daughter; Rita *Vokal*, St. Andrews, Florida; Annie Lee *Pitts*, Port St. Joe, Florida; Wynelle Leanza *Irvin*, 608 Harrison Ave., Panama City, Florida; my son, *William* and I.

Ada RODGERS

Only Mrs. McGinnis and I had sat in a seance before.

Mr. Rodgers had steadfastly refused to take any part in anything until someone suggested we sit for table manifestations. Four of us, Mr. Schmidt, Mrs. Pitts, Mr. Rodgers, and I placed our palms very lightly on the table.

Soon Mr. Schmidt said, *"There are three men here who were drowned. I see a boat with masts . . . they were trying to make themseves known."*

Then I asked how long have you been in spirit and the answer was, *"about three years."*

Just What He Needed

At this point I asked if they were the men on the oil boat. The answer was *"yes."* It was then that my husband remembered three of his most intimate friends, the Captain, First Mate, and Chief Engineer of *"Benjamin Brewster,"* an oil transport boat, torpedoed in the Gulf of Mexico, at the mouth of the Mississippi River.

This boat brought the oil supply to Panama City for Standard Oil Co. of Kentucky for which firm, my husband is local agent.

This message with all its evidence and proof of survival and spirit communication was exactly what my husband needed. He was thrilled and excited and was only too glad from that time on to attend seances with me for you see NOW HE IS NO LONGER A SKEPTIC.

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Are There PSYCHIC LAWS?

When Men Agree Upon Where We Go When We Die . . . Then Efforts Should Be Made To Discover Whence We Came.

By
HORACE LEAF, F. R. G. S.

One almost despairs of finding law and order in psychic experiences of the supernormal kind. Just as there are *no two minds alike* there appear to be *no two psychic experiences alike*, although they may often belong to the same class or order.

I once experimented with a view to seeing whether it was possible to leave the physical body and be aware of the fact. My efforts were rewarded, but never to order. The extrusion of my phychic double concurred when least expected and the mental reactions were never alike.

On occasion I found myself in the room in which my body lay; and once I found myself in a state of existence in no sense corresponding with what I had ever read or thought possible.

Reaction Differs

Time and space were so different that I cannot find adequate thought, let alone words to express it; and what struck me as still more remarkable, I had no relations. Mother, father, sister, brother, wife and child did not exist for me. The feeling was that I had an equal relationship with all human beings.

This doubtless was not the world to which we ordinarily pass at death; nevertheless, its reality was so great that I knew, and have ever since been compelled to believe, that the life we live on earth is so unreal as to be nothing more important than a dream, an illusion.

Of course, it is on the whole an unpleasant dream, but that is probably because of its unreality. The experience assured me that the Spiritualist is right when he says that to die is to live.

Extrusion of the psychic body has long interested me, and for many years I have collected testimonies from all kinds of people who have had similar to my own when I saw my physical body and the room in which it lay. None seem to have left their physical body in quite the same way as each other.

Some declare that they rose from it in an outstretched position, others that they suddenly and inexplicably discovered that they were out of it. Some were clothed in a style corresponding with their physical organisms, or had no clothes on at all; others were garbed in flowing raiments.

Some left their bodies through the head, and at least one positively declared that she entered it through the feet. Some arose from it fully formed, others only partially formed, and one came out of it like a mass of vapour and gradually found the upper part of her etheric body taking shape.

Easiest Way Out

In some cases they resembled in appearance and age their physical organism, others were much younger, more beautiful, and in one case sexless.

Several were filled with fear, whilst others felt a charming delight and hoped that they would never have to return to their earthly freedom, a mere thought being sufficient to carry them to where they desire to go. More than one were motionless, and strove without success to move.

Sometimes the sense of lightness indicated that they were free from anything corresponding to the pull of gravity, whilst in other cases they declare they moved through a heavy, glutinous substance which made movement most difficult.

Of course, the easiest way to solve all these cases is to attribute them to imagination, but that way is too easy. One thing is clear, it would be impossible to convince the recipients of these remarkable experiences that they were not real.

On pragmatical grounds they seem always to have *"worked"* effectively, for I found that without exception the percipient's view of life had through them been considerably affected, and always in favour of a belief in survival. Their method of deduction was invariably the same, namely, that since it is possible for the spirit to be separated from the body during life, it is possible for it to survive the final separation at death.

In this respect they may justly be regarded as privileged people, as they seem to be well on the way to settling the great question upon which religion is founded.

It is puzzling, however, in view of the frequent realization that earth-life is a myth, an unimportant existence compared with the great reality which lies beyond, why we are called upon to live it at all. My own experience was that it served no useful purpose. Yet over and over again the recipient realised they had to come back because their *"work was not finished!"*

There is a great deal of testi-

(Continued Page 10, Col. 3)

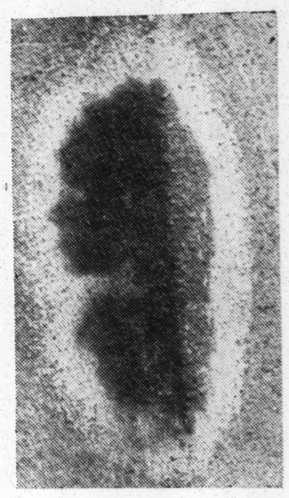
WEST VIRGINIA'S STARTLING PHENOMENA

What could be referred to as genuine spontaneaus psychic phenomena has taken place at Rand, Kanawha Valley, West Virginia, 25 miles northeast of Charleston, the state capital. A full account of this episode appears in "thrill-seeking" American Weekly, dated July 1st, 1945. This weekly published a picture of Peggy Sue Weaver, the lovable child around whom the story is written and a picture of "spot" which grew into an image in the gray on a porch post.

An eye-witness account of this phenomena was submitted to Psychic Observer by Virgil McComas, 307 Elm St., Chevy Chase, Maryland. His letter reads:

"While on a visit to my parents' home in West Virginia I saw the original of the image. It is a formation on stuccoed porch post and the white border surrounding it is much more oval than in picture, due to its being formed partly across the corner of post.

AMAZING IMAGE



"According to stories by those acquainted with the family, they misunderstood the little girl whose image this is said to represent. Some time ago she died of pneumonia and was buried in little more than a day from the time of her passing. Subsequently she is reported to have appeared at night to her father and others of the family informing them that water had risen over her body in the coffin. These appearances persisted and finally an investigation disclosed that water had risen over the coffin in grave.

"I heard also that another image was forming on one of the bed posts where she died. I could not verify this as there were signs out front marked 'No Tresspassing.' However, thousands have come to see the face on the post, the record being 4,000 in one day. The face of the image points directly at the bedroom window where she passed on."

o o

The above image, reproduced on a souvenir folder (*) was sent to the office of Psychic Observer. On the folder, priced at 25c, are these words:

"Within a month after this image was found on a stuccoed porch post at the home of J. J. Weaver, Rand, W. Va., on Route 60, three world figures died or disappeared and V-E Day was declared by the United Nations.

"It has been sent to soldiers and sailors all over the world. Thousands have thronged to see it. It has been proven a work of nature. Years will never erase nor clear up the many questions it has inspired."

o o

(*) These folders are NOT for sale by Dale News, Inc., or the Psychic Observer. They are obtainable in the vicinity of Rand, West Virginia.

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The date of this paper is:

August 25, 1945

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APPORT PHENOMENA

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

ous. He was an English medium and was well known for his *apport* mediumship. Mr. Stott had not received apports before that time.

At the next seance I attended, "*Barbara*" (Mr. Stott's little spirit helper) told us that the spirit of a man who had a "*funny little lamp on his head*" was present; and that "*he must be a miner.*"

After several successive seances the "*miner*" become stronger and gave his name as "*Jack Webber,*" the English medium (of Mr. Edward's book), and promised to help Mr. Stott develop the same type mediumship he had possessed. Mr. Webber *had* been employed as a miner.

Rare Pictures Taken

Soon, at the Stott seances, *apports* began to "*come through.*" A camera was bought, at the suggestion of "*Jack Webber,*" and *Mr. Stott, Sr.* was instructed to take flash-light pictures of Leonard, while he was in trance, showing ectoplasmic formations, somewhat similar to the pictures illustrated in the book ("*The Mediumship of Jack Webber*"). Mr. Stott now has a large collection of flash-light pictures (See Page 12, Psychic Observer, Aug. 10th, 1945) taken by his father in the seance room. I have been present on many occasions when they were taken.

At *Camp Chesterfield* (Chesterfield, Indiana), when Mr. and Mrs. Pressing and I attended one of John Bunker's "*Pow Wow*" seances (*which is a direct-voice seance by Indian spirits*), there were about thirty in the group and each person received an *apport.*

Mr. Bunker is noted for his *apport* phenomena. Some received *cut stones, arrow-heads, shells,* and other things. My gift was a small *conch shell.* Friends have shown me cut stones received at Mr. Bunker's seances, which they have had set into rings, lavalieres and brooches; jewelers appraised the stones as "*precious gems*".

"Precious Gems"

Mr. Bunker once told me that he had always been curious as to *how* the apports were received, and often pondered over it. One day, at his home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, he started up the stairs (from the reception hall to the second floor) and as he slowly mounted the first step, suddenly, he felt a strange sensation in his solar plexus. At the same time he noticed a thick, cloudy-white substance, directly in front of his plexus. When he reached the third step he heard something fall. He stooped to pick up the object and found it to be a fossilifrous rock in which several minute heads are formed. Mr. Bunker carries the apport "*talisman*" in his pocket always, he said.

How Do We Know?

Last summer, when I was visiting at "*Camp Silver Belle,*" Ephrata, Pa., a guest from Washington, D. C., showed me a very ancient silver cross which was an *apport* gift, received through the mediumship of *Hugh Gordon Burroughs.* Later, when I asked Mr. Burroughs about it, he told me that *apport* phenomena was not a regular procedure at his "*circles.*" He said, "*Strange as it may seem, each member in that particular class had, at different times, received a CROSS. Each cross being of an individual design and of a different era.*" Miss Helen Hollbrook's apported cross was given to her by a spirit helper who had once been a *Crusader*"; and the cross was worn by him at the time.

Friends ask, "*How do you know those things are APPORTS? Don't you suppose the mediums could have them hidden in their pockets?* Of course they *could!* . . . but I don't believe it. Why? Because my personal conviction has been strengthened by an experience Mr. Schafer and I had, three years ago. We were sitting in silent communion together. We had made a practice of sitting regularly, and sometimes a few friends joined us. On that momentous night (after sitting for three uneventful years), imagine our surprise to receive an *Indian arrow head!* (See Page 1)

Whatever anyone says about other *apports,* we can vouch for the authenticity of *this one!* Somehow I felt the event was of portentious significance and it later, proved to be. On that date, something of major importance happened but we did not learn about it until five months later. In their own way the spirit helpers had given us a sign which we could not interpret.

O.K.'ed by Police

The greatest known apport medium is, *Charles Bailey* of Sydney, Australia. A large collection of Mr. Bailey's apports are now at Leland Stanford University, Polo Alto, California. They were willed by *T. W. Stanford,* to his brother, Leland. It is known that many homes of Sydney, Australia, are filled with apports of rare geological interest; specimens for students and objects for museums.

H. L. Williams (Police Magistrate of Norfolk Island, South Pacific), a successful criminal investigator, used his professional knowledge and experience in investigating Charles Bailey's mediumship; and pronounced his mediumship to be *genuine.*

Mr. Williams reported that among the apports he has seen were: "*A Saracen helmet of scale armour, each scale a silver coin with inscription, containing more than* 3000 *such coins;* 30 *to* 40 *Chinese carved figures in ivory of exquisite workmanship and draped in silk, arranged to represent a royal court. One of my friends saw a complete mandarin's robe fall from the ceiling; birds unknown in Australia, alive and in cages, particularly jungle sparrows. Babylonian cunieform tablet*" (*which Mr. Williams used as a paper-weight*), "*Punic tablets; faience figures from Egypt; cut and polished stones; coins, gold, silver and copper with inscriptions in Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic, some of which I deciphered and catalogued, etc.*"

As Explanation

The unparalleled apport phenomena, in annuals of psychical research, has been that of human, entranced bodies being dematerialized and transported through enclosed walls. It requires a tremendous amount of faith . . . and a stretch of the imagination, from those who have never witnessed anything of that nature, to accept the stories as true, but verily I, myself, do whole-heartedly believe them, for I happen to be honored in knowing, *Mrs. Gwendolyn Kelley Hack* who was present on such an occasion . . . and whose veracity is beyond questioning.

Mrs. Hack lives in the St. Regis Hotel in New York City. In her books: "*Experiences in the Castle of Millesimo*" and "*Venetian Voices,*" (**) she recounts fully, her thrilling story. It happened when she was living in Genoa, Italy. The Marquis de'Centurioni (whose home was the Castle of Millesimo) was apported bodily through the walls of the medieval

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 1)

French Medium's Startling Apport Phenomena

Psychic Observer

The picture above (left) is the reproduction of a portrait of Madame Fabienne Rossi (Mme. Paolo E. Rossi) of Paris and Genoa, through whose mediumship apport phenomena have occurred, according to Gwendolyn Kelley Hack's "Modern Psychic Mysteries" (now out-of-print).

The photo above (right) shows apports received through Mrs. Rossi's mediumship, July 14th, 1928, at Millesimo Castle. The apports, left to right, are: Weapon of Austrian prisoner (World War I), Fox-Tail and Horse Shoe from Officer Caprilli.

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The seventeenth ansual session of The *Chain Lake Spiritualist Camp Association,* South Branch, Michigan, opened July 1st and will close August 26th, according to Mable *Barnes,* President.

The camp consists of 24 acres of land,—a new auditorium with seating capacity of 225. It is owned and chartered by The Michigan State Spiritualist Association.

Speakers On Program

Speakers and mediums listed on the official 1945 program: Paul *Siegrist,* Lillian *Trumble,* Celia *Miller,* Sara *Tingay,* J. L. and Philoma *Cowan,* George L. *Hartley,* Flora *Lockridge,* Fred W. *Spriggs,* Mattie *Garlock,* Corilla *Baker,* Margaret *Blackburn,* Nellie *Barnes* and Mable *Barnes.*

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(P-167)

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(P-164-169)

More About WHAT APPORTS ARE

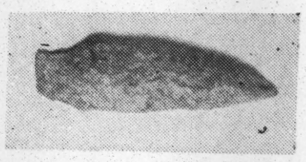
(Continued from Page 1)

then precipitated into three-dimensional space—much as we can lift out something which is enclosed in a circle and place it outside. For two dimensional beings, that only know of length and breadth, and live in a plane, this act of ours would constitute a wonderful apport phenomenon.

The other theory was put forward in seance room communications. According to this, spirits by an act of will-power, disintegrate the matter to be transported into its molecular elements without altering the form. In this state the object may pass through the interstices of intervening matter and become re-integrated by a second act of will-power. This theory essentially means that there is, beyond the solid, liquid and gaseous state, a fourth or fluidic state, in which matter becomes invisible, impalpable and possesses, conjointly with an expansion of volume, great molecular malleability. From various observations, one would have to suppose that the state is one of inertia and that it requires strong thermo-dynamic efforts on the part of the spirit operators to effect the return to the former solid state."

The apport, above, was received by Juliette Ewing Pressing in a seance held at Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp, through the mediumship of John Bunker.

According to Mrs. Pressing, this apport was warm . . . it seemed to drop from a ball of light, moving in her direction. When asked to cup her hands, the apport dropped in Mrs. Pressing's lap . . . then the light disappeared completely.



The apport above was received by Grace Schafer during a seance at 5966 *Malta St., Philadelphia, Pa., through the mediumship of Leonard Stott. It is an arrow head and was received under normal test conditions. In most instances, this type of phenomena is spontaneous; the medium is powerless to declare, before any seance, whether or not apports of any kind will be received.*

There are dozens of American mediums who have demonstrated apport phenomena. Data is meager relative to the occurrence of this phase of mediumship in England.

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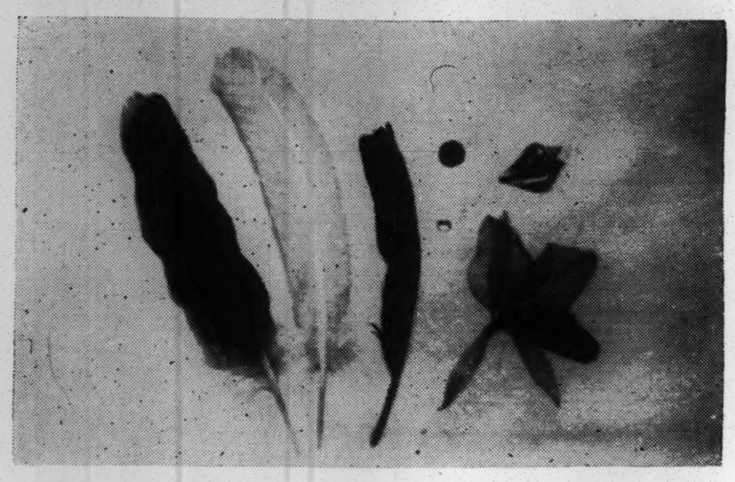
(P-167)

Apports Through Decker and Stott



Psychic Observer

Assembled above are apports received by Grace Schafer during a series of seances. The white feather and coin (upper right center) received through the mediumship of Frank Decker of New York City and St. Petersburg, Florida. The two black feathers, and shell were apported through Leonard Stott.

APPORT PHENOMENA

(Continued from Page 4, Col. 4)

castle. After a futile search throughout the castle, in desperation the select group of persons, who had been sitting with him, implored Mrs. Hack to use her automatic-writing mediumship to locate the Marquis.

Charles Victor Miller

Through Mrs. Hack's writing they were told that "*the Marquis will be found at the place he loves most.*" His wife exclaimed, "*Oh, that means we will find him at the stables, for he loves his horses most.*" A diagram of directions was drawn which indicated a direct route to the stables on the estate, about a quarter of a mile distance. They proceeded *en masse* (eight of them) to the stables. After unlocking three heavy doors to gain entrance, they found the noble dignitary, still in deep trance, lying in one of the stalls.

A similar experience is told of the dematerialization of *Charles Victor Miller*, who passed away in New York last year. It is recorded in W. Reichel's book, "*An Occultist Travels*" (written in 1908). The seance took place in San Francisco, with twenty-seven persons present. Mr. Miller was apported through the enclosed walls of a seance room and found later . . . still in trance, on the second floor. The seance was *under test conditions.* Mr. Miller was well known for his spectacular materializations.

(**) **Out-of-print.**

A BAILEY APPORT

Psychic Observer

The above photo is a reproduction of a Malay Chief's Head-dress, brought into a seance room in New Zealand, May 20th, 1909, through the mediumship of Charles Bailey of Melbourne, Australia. Those present were Professor Willy Reichel, noted scientist and psychic researcher of that day and W. T. Stanford, California enthusiast over Bailey's mediumship.

After receiving the above apport, Prof. Reichel made this statement: "The medium was in deepest trance. I examined his eyes, opened his lids and found the pupils were fixed and turned inwards. Charles Bailey is one of the few mediums in the world that can produce results worthy of scientific investigation. Science has explained to us that what we call matter is only an aggregation of atoms, held together by the law of affinity. I am entirely convinced of the genuineness of this head-dress."

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(P-173)

BRADY LAKE CAMP NOW OPEN

The fifty-fourth annual session of The *Brady Lake Spiritualist Camp Association* opened July 1st at Lake Brady, Ohio, according to *William Kingsbury*, Secretary. The closing date will be August 26th.

Listed on the official program: Rev. Ralph *Whitney*, Rev. Della *Kingsbury*, President of the camp; Rev. Alice Lamb *Towner*, Sec'y O.S.S.A.; Theodor C. Russell (July 8th to August 1st); Rev. Katherine *Fidell;* Rev. Charles *Hartshorne;* Bessie *Woodard;* Rev. Floyd *Humble;* Rev. Melvin O. *Smith;* Rev. W. D. *Brown;* J. W. *Rowe;* Rev. Jacque *Savage;* Gilbert *Foster;* Rev. Amy *Pierce.*

The board of Directors for 1945: President, Della Kingsbury; Vice President, Fred *Ferris;* Sec'y, William *Kingsbury;* Treasurer, C. Mack *Day;* Trustees, E. E. *Bell*, A. D. *Cook*, L. C. *Webb*, G. A. *Mighton* and T. C. *Russell.*

HAMLIN GARLAND

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

brought a Ouija board along and would Mrs. Williams care to attempt a session with the *planchette.*

She seemed bored, but consented and she and Robb sat with the board for half-an-hour. No phenomena resulted. She then tried automatic writing, but received only a few messages of a very general nature.

Gibson Amazed

Then Mrs. Williams turned to *Gibson* and, still smiling, said she might give some clairvoyance. She asked him if it were not true that he had been married before and divorced and that he had a son by his first wife.

Rather amazed, Gibson nodded in the affirmative. She then said he had been an insurance agent some 25 years ago. (Even I had not known this fact.) Gibson affirmed the truth of the statement. She then went on to tell him a remarkable series of evidential facts about his family, his brothers and sisters, and more distant relatives.

She concluded by speaking of a gold-watch she said he had and gave the background as to how he had received the watch. Gibson later told me that in his varied experience with mediums and psychics, he had never seen such an incredible demonstration of clairvoyance.

We Heard ! !

I then said that I felt we ought to discontinue this as Mrs. Williams was a guest and I did not feel we ought to tire her. She said she suffered no ill effects. We then discussed the source of her psychic energy, which Mrs. Williams seemed to believe was somewhere in the region of her solar plexis. We talked some more. It was about eleven-thirty and then Mrs. Williams, who was sitting on the couch, suddenly cocked her head, and said,

"Did you hear that?"

We all said we had heard nothing. My wife listened carefully.

"There," said Mrs. Williams, "It spoke again."

I asked Raines to remain at the other side of the room. *Robb* and *Gibson* also kept at least five feet away. My wife and I, jumping up, flanked Mrs. Williams on both sides.

And then we heard it! . . . a timid etheric voice in the air. It seemed to be speaking about two feet above Mrs. Williams' head. It sounded like the faint whistling rhythmic noise of a cricket, rather similar to some of the accounts describing the voicing of Walter, Margery's control.

I repeat—the lights were fully on at all times.

The faint voice continued to come and go for several moments, and my wife and I screwed up our ears to make out the words being spoken.

Maurice ZOLOTOW

Finally, I said I thought it was repeating, "David, David, David, David." Robb bounced up and claimed this as a very close relative of his, but since the voice did not offer any more details we hesitated to accept this as evidential.

After about fifteen minutes, the voice faded away.

I then said to Mrs. Williams that I wished to make a more lengthy study of the phenomena and write a careful article about her strange gifts.

Never before—even in connection with D. D. Home—had I heard of independent-voice phenomena under these conditions.

She said she was willing to do this and would grant me several interviews on her next trip to New York. She is now engaged in clearing up some private affairs on the west coast and I am looking forward to Mrs. Williams' return to New York and another visit from the etheric messenger.

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More About Garland

Hamlin Garland, famous author and psychical researcher passed away in Los Angeles, March 4th, 1944.

Mr. Garland at the time of his death was the chairman of the Council of the Institute of Psychical Research, of which Arthur Ford was Director. He took a keen interest in the work of the Institute and lectured many times before the members.

Mr. Garland's book, "FORTY YEARS OF PSYCHICAL RESEARCH,"* published several years ago, revealed the author as still unconvinced of survival and communication.

His more recent book "THE MYSTERY OF THE BURIED CROSSES" struck a more positive note and the author expressed himself as convinced that survival is a fact. In public statements, Mr. Garland several times stated his conviction that no explanation other than survival of consciousness and communication between incarnate and discarnate entities could adequately cover the facts he had unearthed in his quest for the renowned artifacs.

The passing of this distinguished man of letters was a distinct loss to the cause of scientific research in psychic phenomena.

*Dale News, Inc. $3.50.

CAMP MAYFLOWER CLOSES AUG. 19th

The 7th annual session of Spiritualist *Camp Mayflower*, opening July 8th last, will close August 19th, according to the official 1945 program.

The camp is located by starting at 38th and State St., outside the city limits of Kansas City, Kansas, and following route 40 to Mission Creek Rd. Turn South and follow camp signs.

Lecturers and message bearers being featured this season are: Rev. Maude *Tucker*, Rev. Bettie J. *Palmer*, Rev. Lillian *Lowery*, L. E. *Holmes*, Bertha *Holmes*, Rosa *Hegeman*, Katie *Licich*, Phoebe *Stevens*, Rev. Florence *Meek*, A. E. *Palmer*, Rev. F. W. *Curtis*, Rev. Florence *Davidson*, Mable *Shaner*, Rosy *Hulse*, H. B. *Tucker*, Florence *Stafford*, Lilly *Fritz*, Edith *Coburn*, Marian *Alexander*, Ralph *Hall*, Ethyle *Matlock*, Gertrude *Adams*, Rev. Marie *Blunt*, Charles *Riggs*, Rev. J. *Dobbins*, Rev. Ethel *Le Vore* and Cora *Tuttle.*

Camp Mayflower was named in honor of an *Aztec Princess* who belonged to the reigning house of *Mayflower* and was released from the physical plane with the sinking of the *Atlantis.*

The board of directors are: President, Rev. Bettie J. *Palmer*, Vice President, Rev. Marie *Blunt*, Secretary, Mable *Shaner*, 828 Ann Ave., Kansas City, Kansas; Ass't. Secretary, Bertha *Holmes;* Treasurer, John *Brendle.*

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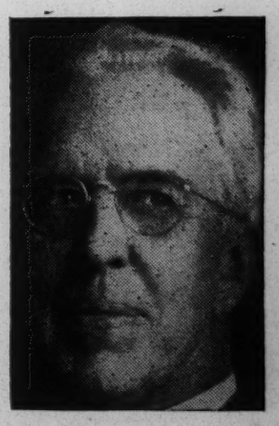

EVIDENCE OF SPIRIT ACTIVITY

The following article from the writings of W. T. STEAD is interesting as illustrating the problem of prevision, and showing that memory persists beyond death.

I Do Not Doubt the Possibility of Communication With the Socalled Dead.

Some years ago I had in my employment a lady of remarkable talent, but of a very uncertain temper and of anything but robust health. She became so difficult that one January I was seriously thinking of parting with her, when *Julia* wrote with my hand, "*Be very patient with E. M.; she is coming over to our side before the end of the year.*"

I was rather startled, for there was nothing to make me think that she was likely to pass away. I said nothing about the message, and continued her in my employ. It was, I think, about January 15th or 16th when the warning was given.

It was repeated in February, March, April, May and June, each time the passage being written as a kind of reminder in the body of a longer communication about other matters. "*Remember, E. M. is going to pass over before the end of the year.*"

Warning of Approaching Death

In July E. M. inadvertently swallowed a tack. It lodged in her appendix, and she became dangerously ill. The two doctors by whom she was attended did not expect her to recover.

When *Julia* was writing with my hand, I remarked, "*I suppose this is what you foresaw when you predicted E. M. would pass over?*"

To my infinite surprise she wrote, "*No; she will get better of this, but all the same she will pass over before the year is out.*"

E. M. did recover suddenly, to the amazement of the doctors, and was soon doing her usual work. In August, in September, in October, and in November, the warning of her approaching death was each month communicated through my hand.

In December E. M. fell ill with influenza. "*So it was this,*" I remarked to Julia, "*that you foresaw?*"

Again I was destined to be surprised, for Julia wrote, "*No; she will not come over here naturally. But she will come before the year is out.*" I was alarmed, but I was told I could not prevent it.

Was Julia Mistaken

Christmas came. E. M. was very ill. But the old year passed, and she was still alive. "*You see you were wrong,*" I said to Julia, "*E. M. is still alive.*" Julia replied, "*I may be a few days out, but what I said is true.*"

About January 10th Julia wrote to me, "*You are going to see E. M. tomorrow. Bid her farewell. Make all necessary arrangements. You will never see her again on earth.*" I went to see her.

She was feverish, coughed badly, and was expecting to be removed to a nursing hospital, where she could receive better attention. All the time I was with her she talked of what she was going to do to carry out her work. When I bade her good-bye I wondered if *Julia* was not mistaken.

Picked Up Dead

Two days later I received a telegram informing me that E. M. had thrown herself out of a four-story window in delirium, and had been picked up dead. It was within a day or two of the end of the twelve months since the first warning was given.

This narrative can be proved by the manuscript of the original messages, and by the signed statement of my two secretaries, to whom, under the seal of secrecy, I communicated the warnings of Julia. No better substantiated case of prevision written down at the time and not once but twelve times, is on record. However you may account for it, telepathy, conscious or unconscious, breaks down here.

JULIA

The lady whose initials were E. M., and whose tragic fate I have just described, had promised me that if she died before me, she would do four things.

First, that she would use my hand, if she could, after death, to tell me how it fared with her on the other side.

Secondly, she promised that, if she could, she would appear to one or more of her friends to whom she could show herself.

In the *third place*, she would come to be photographed, and *fourthly*, she would send me a message through a medium, authenticating the message by countersigning it with the simple mathematical figure of a cross within a circle.

I Could Not Help Myself

E. M. did all four(1) She has repeatedly written with my hand, apparently finding it just as easy to use my hand now as she did when still in the body.

(2) She has repeatedly appeared to two friends of mine, one a woman, the other a man. She appeared once in a dining-room full of people. She passed unseen by any but her friend, who declares that she saw her distinctly. On another occasion she appeared in the street in broad daylight, walked for a little distance, and then vanished. I may say that her appearance was so original it would be difficult to mistake her for anybody else.

(3) She has been photographed at least half a dozen times after her death. All her portraits are plainly recognizable, but none of them are copies of any photographs taken in earth life.

(4) There remains the test of a message accompanied by the sign of a cross within a circle I did not get this for several months. I had almost given up all hopes, when one day a medium who was lunching with a friend of mine received it on the first attempt she made at automatic writing. "*Tell William not to blame me for what I did. I could not help myself,*" was the message.

Then came a plainly but roughly drawn circle, and inside it the cross. No one knew of our agreement as to the test but myself. I did not know the medium, I was not present, nor was my friend expecting any message from E. M.

Is it surprising, then, that after such experiences I have no more doubt of the possibility of *communicating with the so-called dead?*

The Psychic Observer

Registered Trade Mark

"Spiritualism's Pictorial Journal"

Established 1937

Lily Dale, Chautauqua County, N. Y. U. S. A.

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PSYCHIC LAWS?

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 5)

mony from my informers that spirits often participated in their extrusions from the physical body. Sometimes difficulties arose which made it possible that the etheric body might not be able to return to the physical, and then every effort was made by the spirits to ensure that the return was accomplished.

What is this "*work*" people have to do? The matter is not adequately answered by saying that they had to develop their characters. Mostly their spiritual characters were much better than their earthly ones, and in some cases no appreciable improvement seems to have taken place by prolonging earth-life. Indeed, I have observed that in some instances the character became worse.

One is constrained to answer the question in an ethical way, but I suspect that there is something else about it which has not yet been revealed to us.

Perhaps when we have satisfactorily established the question of *where we go when we die*, we may make efforts to discover *from whence we came.* The solution of that question will, I feel sure, do much to solve the mystery of why so many people should be compelled to reside for so long in a state of illusion.

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MEDIUM'S SON EARNS MEDALS

Sgt. Baxter Returns On Furlough

The editor of Psychic Observer has known John W. (Jack) Baxter for the past twenty years. They both lived on the same street at Lily Dale, N. Y. Today he is known at T-3 John W. Baxter. His mother is the noted trance medium and psychic artist, Katherine (Kitty) Baxter of Camden, Maine.

It is matter of record that Sgt. Baxter landed in France on D-Day, very soon after H-Hour. Here is his story:

Sgt. BAXTER

"At first it didn't seem real," the soldier continues, "Strangely, it seemed comparable to watching a technicolor movie. Everything seemed more vivid than usual. Colors instead of blending, clashed in sharp contrast. The blue water, the white beach, gray ships blasting orange streaks of gunfire surrounded with black smoke of powder as they fired broadside after broadside bombarding strongpoints on the shore. Then there was the red of blood, a brilliant scarlet hue against white flesh.

"That day will live forever in my memory."

Baxter continues, "However, though death and destruction was all around me, no harm or danger has come near me since. Love and prayers have formed an impenetrable armor around me, shielding me from all harm."

However, the soldier's armor failed to ward off one shell for he was wounded in France sometime afterward and was awarded the Purple Heart by his commanding officer He was wounded on October 25.

Now Baxter wears the Purple Heart ribbon next to his Bronze Star ribbon, won 20 days before being wounded for extreme valor in action. Modestly enough, he has not revealed the action that won him that prized decoration.

He entered the service in January 1941 and went overseas in September 1942. After almost two years in England he took part in the invasion of Normandy. His unit won the Presidential Citation for action in the D-Day landings.

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AT LAST

A Brother of the Third Degree

By

Will L. Garver

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Appraisal of Information

Given Through Psychic Phenomena Concerning Conditions of Next Plane Existence.

By

Mary Stephenson Barnes

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Granting the genuineness of psychic phenomena and the reality of the other world persons purporting to communicate, granting their sincerity and good intentions, the fact remains that the value of any communication lies in the *revelation* that he who once lived in a physical body is still living in a body as real, as tangible in his sphere of existence, as that which he manipulated when associating with people on this plane.

What he tells of his surroundings, his current activities, can be relied upon as being either literally true or allegorically "*stepped down*" for the understanding of those here whose comprehension is necessarily limited by the physical boundaries of earth existence.

But, *and this is important*, it must be remembered that the *philosophy* of the communicant, the religious *ideas* as to the ultimate purpose of life, etc., are the reflection of his own beliefs which may not have changed radically since entrance into another sphere of activity.

Naturally, spirit communicators will attract or "*gravitate*" towards associates of kindred ideas, of those more or less on his own earth-level of thinking.

Furthermore, while apperception of that plane will have somewhat broadened his views, he may continue in his old boundaries of belief until experience and knowledge gained from wiser teachers disillusion him or confirm his views.

For one does not "*know all*" the minute he begins the next phase of his existence. None but the Source (*Why not call it God?*) could contain such knowledge, received suddenly, and remain himself, could he?

The only logical attitude for one receiving such reports is to accept them as sincere reflections of the communicant's own opinions and beliefs, not as revelations from *God Himself.* And, too, we must appraise them against the background of his own reasoning, and remember that, whether his communicant really "*has the answer*" to all the questions concerning the plan of creation, the purpose of life and the manner of its progression, is beside the point.

It may be, as time goes on that more facile means of other-world communication may be developed —some refined radio technique, for instance, and we may receive first hand from our favorite spirit-radio commentator daily reports from various planes of existence.

Even so, being true to type, we shall take as "*gospel truth*" or "*with a grain of salt,*" according to our own predilections or prejudices, the reports they give us. We may not like what they tell us because we are free to appraise, but in any event, we shall be compelled to accept the reality of the broadcaster!

Read - - - -

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Some Notes on SPIRITUALISM

THE IMPORTANCE OF *Physical Phenomena*

By
MRS. PHILIP CHAMPION
DE CRESPIGNY

There is a good and a bad side to most things, and that this applies to Spiritualism no one will be inclined to deny; in fact, as action and reaction are equal and opposite, the very badness of the bad side argues a corresponding superlativeness on the good.

Spiritualism, unlike the whited sepulchre, presents its less attractive side to the casual observer, reserving the inner goodness and sweetness for those who think it worth while to probe its secrets. The bad side gives us charlatans, dishonesty, desecration and most sacred feelings, cupidity, simony, and a host of the evils to which humanity is prone. It thrives on the credulity, vanity, and curiosity of others. But the accredited professions of all countries have their bad sides and thrive on the weaknesses of their neighbors.

Christianity Unshaken?

Because there have been dishonest lawyers no one would throw discredit on the basic principles of equity and justice or cavil at their further administration; because doctors have in some instances abused the confidence of their patients or extorted unjustifiable sums of money, no one would suggest the abandonment of the practice of medicine; a priest might break every law in the decologue, but the beauty and principles of Christianity would remain unshaken.

It is through this outer shell of unloveliness that we must burrow for the loveliness within. Nothing worth winning has ever been won easily; if we are going to be discouraged by an outer presentment that may appear unattractive, even squalid, we're not worthy to win the pearl of great price that lies within.

The mastery of the ocean, electricity, and the air has extorted its dole of lives and suffering; the mastery of the next step, far more stupendous than any before—the opening of communication between Here and There—is to cost as much and more.

Banal Communications?

As in the case of every other line of advance in knowledge of the laws of God, we shall not find until we seek—but seeking we assuredly shall find.

Man's consciousness has been plunged into matter to find his own solution of the riddles set him, and just as he has been left to solve the riddles of aeroplanes, motors, wireless telepathy, the wonders of the stars, and the infinitesimal undulations of light, so must he find the answer to this greatest of all—how to link up this world with that other subtler world, surrounding and interpenetrating our own, and convert into something more than a mere parrot cry the assertion: *"There is no death!"*

One of the objections so often urged is that all communications obtained through mediums are so banal.

But this is not so. Surely a study of the literature would tell that much. We get from the other side information which has proved both instructive and interesting; consolation which has lightened many aching hearts, and often very beautiful descriptions, and hints of conditions opening up quite new lines of thought, and proving very illuminating.

What Will You Say?

It depends upon who speaks. Anyone who thinks and talks trivialities here will talk trivialities there. If we learn to say things worth saying here we shall say them when we get there. The terms of greeting are again a stumbling block; but surely not reasonably so? It may seem on the surface that for anyone intimately dear to you merely to say, *"How are you?"* on finding himself in communication, is eminently unlikely.

But what would he say? On this plane, in such emotional moments, we say nothing—a handclasp, a flash from eye to eye, a long-drawn-out embrace, expresses far more than words. Moreover, in the seance room there is the presence of the medium of which they on the other side are quite as conscious as ourselves, the third person, a stranger, before whom it is impossible to feel entirely frank and untrammeled. We should have felt the *gene* of it on this plane.

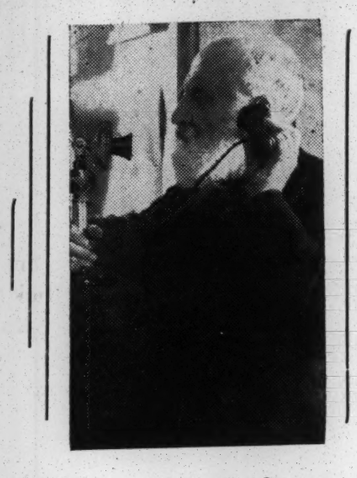
The Right To Criticize

A process of earnest investigation is the only means of earning a right to criticism. The man in the street should pause before offering an opinion on what is to him a sealed book. The man who knows the earth is round because others have discovered it for him is quite ready to deliver an ultimatum on a field of scientific discovery upon the threshold of which those who know just a little more stand trembling with an eager question in their eyes.

"Eyes That See Not"

At this stage it is the scientific side of the facts gleaned by experience that should be insisted on rather than the mystic, as appealing to man's reason and intellect; when physical phenomena have done their work no doubt the other aspects, through clairvoyance and clairaudience, of the inner knowledge will be recognized. At the present stage the appeal must be made to the eyes that see; the *"eyes that see not,"* latent in all of us, and already developed in some, will doubtless be quickened into activity in the years before us.

SENSED HIS OWN PASSING



Psychic Observer

WILLIAM T. STEAD, the well known journalist, was born at Embleton, Northumberland, July 5, 1849, and was the son of a Congregational minister.

First manifestation of his interest in psychic subjects was the publication—in the Christmas Number of the REVIEW OF REVIEWS—of his "REAL GHOST" Stories in 1891.

In 1892 he discovered his gift of receiving communications in automatic writing. In 1893 he began the publication of "BORDERLAND," a quarterly psychic magazine which continued until 1897.

He was invited to speak at Carnegie Hall, New York, on April 21, 1912, on the subject of the World's Peace. Before his departure on the Titanic he wrote to his secretary: "I FEEL AS IF SOMETHING WAS GOING TO HAPPEN, SOMEWHERE, OR SOMEHOW. AND THAT IT WILL BE FOR GOOD. . . "

NEW CAMP IN MASSACHUSETTS

A new Spiritualist center for summer meetings has opened at West Gloucester, Massachusetts. It is located on Lincoln St. and Route No. 128 and is known as The Good Cheer Spiritualist Camp.

The camp is sponsored by The First Spiritualist Church, of Exchange St., Lynn, Massachusetts according to Della Davis, church president.

Services at the camp began July 1st last; speakers and mediums scheduled were: Rev. Bessie Bannister, Pastor of the Salem church; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Harvey; Della Davis; Ann Robbins, Brockton, Massachusetts; Roxy Newhall, Amsbury, Mass.; Frank Daley and Mrs. Laliberty, Portsmouth, New Hampshire; Mrs. Griffin, Haverhill, Mass.; Sue Warburton and Annie McConnelley, Lynn, Mass. Included among the 42 persons present at the first meeting were Mary Parks and William E. Eldridge, both 2½ years old.

HARMONY GROVE CLOSES AUG. 16

August 19th will marke the closing date of the annual summer session at *Harmony Grove Spiritualist Camp*, Escondido, California.

The season opened July 7th last with many outstanding speakers and mediums on the schedule. Classes, lectures, healing and message services were conducted by Bob *Davis*, W. J. *Turner*, Camp President; Rev. Hildred Hope *Langford*, Pastor of The First Spiritualist Church of San Diego, California; Charlotte *Dobbins;* Rev. Bert *Welch*, Pastor of The Church of Light and Truth, Long Beach, California; Rev. George Wesley *Meeker;* Rev. Mary C. *Pirtle*, Rev. C. E. *Goodale* and Rev. *Nunan*.

For complete camp activities data in the future, write C. E. Goodale, R.R. No. 2, Box 729 a, Escondido, California.

Read . . .

Philosophy of Death

By
ANDREW JACKSON
DAVIS

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

FROM THE

W. T. STEAD MEMORIAL CENTER, NEW YORK CITY

REV. DOROTHY WILSON
New Medium and Pastor

REV. MRS. N. S. THEMELIS
Founder, Medium and Former Pastor

WE ARE EXTREMELY HAPPY TO MAKE THIS ANNOUNCEMENT

It is not only the ardent wish and aspiration of Mrs. Themelis, but also the expressed desire of all her collaborators, particularly *William T. Stead*, that we carry on her work. We are happy and thankful to be able to announce that her every wish will be carried out.

Through the mediumship of her successor, *Rev. Dorothy Wilson*, the spirit communication department will continue to bring solace to those inquirers who need to knew more about personal conscious survival.

Through the sponsorship and directorship of her husband, *Rev. N. S. Themelis*, the Educational Department will function to ever greater attainments. In due time, we shall announce a schedule of our activities.

Rev. Dorothy Wilson, our new pastor and trustee, is one of America's outstanding direct-voice, materialization and clairvoyant mediums. Her principal spirit collaborator, *Dr. Rayburn*, has proven himself to be a highly evolved soul—not only because of his learned discourses which are presented with dignity and power but also because of the wisdom contained in all of his teachings. In complete harmony with the collaborators of our former medium, he directs, through his instrument, the work of our center.

During her earth-life, Mrs. Themelis had never met Rev. Wilson. She had only heard about her and it was not until she manifested at a direct-voice seance that she named her successor. Long before her passing, both in New York and Florida, Mrs. Themelis constantly asked Mr. Themelis, her husband, if he had contacted or heard from Mrs. Wilson.

WILLIAM T. STEAD
Spirit Collaborator

She explained to us afterwards that she knew of Mrs. Wilson astrally long before she passed. At subsequent seances, arranged by Mr. Themelis with two reliable mediums, Mrs. Themelis voiced and, in detail, outlined her wishes regarding future activities of the W. T. Stead Center. She suggested Rev. Wilson taking over her Offices as Medium and Pastor, in supreme charge of the Communication Department.

Rev. Mrs. N. S. Themelis, known throughout the world as *"Cecil M. Cook,"* requested this opportunity to convey her gratitude to her members, ex-members, patrons, devotees, admirers, friends, class students and all those who received light through grateful acknowledgement to her supporters for their splendid co-operation but she also wishes to extend thanks for their kind thoughts, devotion and loyalty.

"Advertisement"

Thousands have had the good fortune to visit the headquarters of The Stead Memorial Center and witness Mrs. Themelis' outstanding mediumship. Hundreds of others, unable to share this experience, have read the books (*) made possible through data received through her instrumentality. All have received the Light of ETERNAL LIFE and IMMORTALITY which she expressed during her earth-life by her many acts of kindness and generosity as she carried on the activities of her Educational Organization.

Over six years ago, during a seance, *Pat* materialized and spoke to Mr. Themelis — predicting, even to the day, the exact date of the passing of Mrs. Themelis. Pat is one of the spirit collaborators of *The Stead Center*.

Mrs. Themelis has not only brought light and comfort to literally hundreds of thousands of hungry, grief-stricken and despiring souls but she has also contributed to the Truth and Reality of Spirit Communication as well as to the *Religion* of *Spiritualism*. All of this was made possible through clean living, sterling characer, unchallenged integrity and humble compassion. These traits, coupled with marvelous psychic power, enabled her to raise the standard, dignity and self respect of our religion. To the very last, she held her STANDARD VERY HIGH.

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Verbatim quotations from William T. Stead—received during one of his recent visits, after the passing of Mrs. Themelis.

All my life in th Spirit world, I stood by the side of our beloved instrument helping her to do our work and her work.

"I am still at her side now. With proper re-adjustment of vibrations, the work of our Center will be carried on with more resolution than ever."

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(*) *"God's World,"* $2.00; *"Voice Triumphant,"* $2.50; *"The Key to Communication,"* $1.25; *Distributor, Dale News, Inc., Lily Dale, N. Y.*